

# OPINIONS AND DECLARATIONS RENDERED BY THE INTER- NATIONAL COMMISSION ON ZOOLOGICAL NOMENCLATURE

*Edited by*

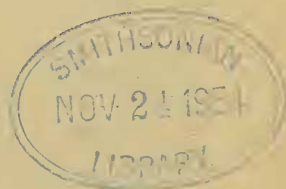
**FRANCIS HEMMING, C.M.G., C.B.E.**

Secretary to the Commission

VOLUME 8. Part 18. Pp. 249—260

## OPINION 301

Designation, under the Plenary Powers, of a type species  
for *Procerites* Siemiradzki, 1898 (Class Cephalopoda,  
Order Ammonoidea) in harmony with accustomed  
nomenclatorial usage



**LONDON :**

Printed by Order of the International Trust for  
Zoological Nomenclature  
and

Sold on behalf of the International Commission on Zoological  
Nomenclature by the International Trust at its Publications Office  
41, Queen's Gate, London, S.W.7

1954

Price Five Shillings and Sixpence

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# INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION ON ZOOLOGICAL NOMENCLATURE

## COMPOSITION AT THE TIME OF THE ADOPTION OF THE RULING GIVEN IN OPINION 301

### A. The Officers of the Commission

*Honorary Life President* : Dr. Karl Jordan (*British Museum (Natural History),  
Zoological Museum, Tring, Herts., England*).

*President* : (Vacant).

*Vice-President* : Senhor Dr. Afranio do Amaral (*Sao Paulo, Brazil*).

*Secretary* : Mr. Francis Hemming (*London, England*).

### B. The Members of the Commission

(arranged in order of precedence by reference to date of election or of most recent re-election, as prescribed by the International Congress of Zoology).

Senhor Dr. Afranio do AMARAL (*S. Paulo, Brazil*) (*Vice-President*) (1st January 1944).

Professor J. R. DYMOND (*University of Toronto, Toronto, Canada*) (1st January 1944).

Professor J. Chester BRADLEY (*Cornell University, Ithaca, N.Y., U.S.A.*) (28th March 1944).

Professor Harold E. VOKES (*Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, Maryland, U.S.A.*) (23rd April 1944).

Dr. William Thomas CALMAN (*Coulsdon, Surrey, England*) (1st January 1947).

Professor Béla HANKÓ (*Békéscsaba, Hungary*) (1st January 1947).

Dr. Norman R. STOLL (*Rockefeller Institute for Medical Research, New York, N.Y., U.S.A.*) (1st January 1947).

Professor H. BOSCHMA (*Rijksmuseum van Natuurlijke Historie, Leiden, The Netherlands*) (1st January 1947).

Senor Dr. Angel CABRERA (*Eva Peron, F.C.N.G.R., Argentina*) (27th July 1948)

Mr. Francis HEMMING (*London, England*) (*Secretary*) (27th July 1948).

Dr. Joseph PEARSON (*Tasmanian Museum, Hobart, Tasmania, Australia*) (27th July 1948)

Dr. Henning LEMCHE (*Universitetets Zoologiske Museum, Copenhagen, Denmark*) (27th July 1948)

Professor Teiso ESAKI (*Kyushu University, Fukuoka, Japan*) (17th April 1950).

Professor Pierre BONNET (*Université de Toulouse, France*) (9th June 1950).

Mr. Norman Denbigh RILEY (*British Museum (Natural History), London*) (9th June 1950).

Professor Tadeusz JACZEWSKI (*Department of Systematic Zoology, Warsaw University, Warsaw, Poland*) (15th June 1950).

Professor Robert MERTENS (*Natur-Museum u. Forschungs-Institut Senckenberg, Frankfurt a. M., Germany*) (5th July 1950).

Professor Erich Martin HERING (*Zoologisches Museum der Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin, Germany*) (5th July 1950).

## OPINION 301

### DESIGNATION, UNDER THE PLENARY POWERS, OF A TYPE SPECIES FOR "PROCERITES" SIEMIRADZKI, 1898 (CLASS CEPHALOPODA, ORDER AMMONOI- DEA) IN HARMONY WITH ACCUSTOMED NOMENCLATORIAL USAGE

**RULING** :—(1) Under the Plenary Powers, all selections of type species for the genus *Procerites* Siemiradzki, 1898 (Class Cephalopoda, Order Ammonoidea) made prior to the present Ruling are hereby set aside, and the nominal species *Procerites schloenbachi* de Grossouvre, 1907, is hereby designated as the type species of the foregoing genus.

(2) The under-mentioned generic names are hereby placed on the *Official List of Generic Names in Zoology* as Names Nos. 741 and 742 respectively :—(a) *Procerites* Siemiradzki, 1898 (gender : masculine) (type species, by designation, under the Plenary Powers, under (1) above : *Procerites schloenbachi* de Grossouvre, 1907) ; (b) *Siemiradzki* Hyatt, 1900 (gender : feminine) (type species, by original designation : *Ammonites aurigerus* Oppel, 1857).

(3) The under-mentioned generic name is hereby placed on the *Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Generic Names in Zoology* as Name No. 151 :—*Euprocerites* Wetzel, 1950 (a junior objective synonym of *Procerites* Siemiradzki, 1898, as defined, under the Plenary Powers, under (1) above).

(4) The under-mentioned specific names are hereby placed on the *Official List of Specific Names in Zoology* as Names Nos. 160 and 161 respectively :—(a) *schloenbachi* de Grossouvre, 1907, as published in the combination *Procerites schloenbachi* ; (b) *aurigerus* Oppel, 1857, as published in the combination *Ammonites aurigerus*.

## I.—THE STATEMENT OF THE CASE

On 28th February 1949, Dr. W. J. Arkell (*Sedgwick Museum, Cambridge University, Cambridge*) submitted an application for the use of the Plenary Powers for the purpose of designating a type species for the genus *Procerites* Siemiradzki, 1898 (Class Cephalopoda, Order Ammonoidea) in harmony with accustomed nomenclatorial usage. Minor revisions were made in this application in the course of 1950, and its terms were finally settled on 23rd August 1950. The application so submitted was as follows :—

**Proposed designation, under the Plenary Powers, of the type species of the genus “*Procerites*” Siemiradzki, 1898 (Class Cephalopoda, Order Ammonoidea) (Jurassic)**

By W. J. ARKELL, M.A., D.Sc., F.R.S.  
(*Sedgwick Museum, Cambridge University, Cambridge*)

1. The generic name *Procerites* was published by Siemiradzki (1898, *Palaeontographica* 54 : 78, 303). Numerous species were included in the genus, but no type species was designated or indicated.

2. One of the species originally included was cited as *Ammonites procerus* Seebach, 1865. This species as interpreted by Siemiradzki (i.e. Siemiradzki, 1898, *nec* Seebach, 1864) was selected as the type species of *Procerites* by Buckman in 1914 (2 : ix) and 1920 (3 : 30).

3. De Grossouvre (1892 ; 1907 ; 1919 ; 385, 387) showed that *Procerites procerus* Seebach, as interpreted by Siemiradzki, was based on *Ammonites procerus* Seebach, as interpreted by Schloenbach (1865 : pl. xxx, fig. 1), which (1907 : 8) he renamed *Procerites schloenbachi* de Grossouvre, pointing out that it was generically different from *A. procerus* Seebach.

4. According to the decision taken by the Thirteenth International Congress of Zoology in 1948, it is necessary to assume that the original author of a genus correctly identified the nominal species referred by him thereto but where there are grounds for considering that the original author of a genus misidentified the species selected as the type species of the genus by a later author, the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature, if satisfied that the species in question was so misidentified, is, under its Plenary Powers, to designate

as the type species of the genus concerned, either (a) the species intended by the original author when citing the name of the erroneously determined species or (b), if the identity of that species is doubtful, a species in harmony with current nomenclatorial practice (1950, *Bull. zool. Nomencl.* 4 : 158—159). Further, an author selecting a type species of a previously established genus is to be assumed to have correctly identified the species so selected (1950, *ibid.* 4 : 157—158). It follows therefore (1) that, as matters now stand, Siemiradzki is to be assumed to have correctly identified *Ammonites procerus* Seebach, 1865, when he cited that species as one of the species then included by him in the genus *Procerites*, and (2) that Buckman (1914) is to be assumed to have correctly identified that species when he selected it as the type species of the above genus. In the present case it is perfectly clear that such assumptions are not justified, for (a) it is certain that Siemiradzki did misidentify the species to which he applied the name *Ammonites procerus* Seebach, and (b) Buckman, in selecting the type species for *Procerites*, expressly stated that the species so selected was not the true *Ammonites procerus* of Seebach but the species misidentified therewith by Siemiradzki. It is for this reason that the Commission is now asked to rectify the position under its Plenary Powers.

5. At my request Professor Hermann Schmidt has searched in Göttingen Museum for the type specimen of *A. procerus* Seebach and has found it and sent it to me on loan. It is a nucleus, difficult to interpret with certainty. In my opinion de Grossouvre (1919) was correct in referring it to the genus *Siemiradzki* Hyatt, 1900. Therefore if *A. procerus* Seebach were to be recognised as type species of *Procerites*, the usage of half a century would be overturned and that generic name would have to replace *Siemiradzki* Hyatt, 1900, a well-known and widely-distributed genus, which is now regarded as belonging to a different sub-family (PSEUDOPERISPHINCTINAE, whereas *Procerites* as hitherto understood belongs to ZIGZAGICERATINAE).

6. When the present application had been in the hands of the International Commission for over a year, the subgenus *Euprocerites* Wetzel (1950 : 76) was proposed with type species by original designation *Procerites schloenbachi* de Grossouvre, "because a subgenus *Procerites* (*sensu stricto*) as fixed by Buckman is not admissible according to the Rules of Nomenclature". Incidentally Wetzel gives no indication of how *Procerites* (*sensu stricto*) should be understood, for he mentions no type species, and he assigns *A. procerus* Seebach to the subgenus *Phanerosphinctes* Buckman, 1921. This genus is based on a nucleus which is too small to be interpreted with certainty, but which is not congeneric with either *A. procerus* Seebach or *Procerites schloenbachi* de Grossouvre, and comes from older beds: *Phanerosphinctes* is probably a synonym of *Vermisphinctes* Buckman, 1920.

7. Wetzel's new subgenus *Euprocerites* cannot, however, stand under the *Règles*. He assigns to *Euprocerites* Wetzel, 1950, the species



*Parkinsonites fullonicus* Buckman, 1922, which is type species by original designation of *Parkinsonites* Buckman, 1922. *Parkinsonites fullonicus* is certainly congeneric with *Procerites schloenbachi* de Grossouvre and is a closely allied species. If the name *Procerites* were to be rejected for the subgenus containing the species *P. fullonicus* Buckman, *Parkinsonites* would become the valid name and *Euprocerites* on Wetzel's own showing would fall as a synonym.

8. In order to provide a legal basis for the universal usage of the last half century and to avoid the revolutionary changes and consequent confusion in the nomenclature of the Bathonian PERISPINCTIDAE which the strict application of the *Règles* would involve, the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature is asked to use its Plenary Powers to secure that the type species of the genus *Procerites* Siemiradzki, 1898, shall be the species hitherto accepted as such. The specific action requested is that the Commission should :—

- (1) use its Plenary Powers (a) to set aside all selections of the type species of the genus *Procerites* Siemiradzki, 1898, hitherto made, and (b) to designate *Procerites schloenbachi* de Grossouvre, 1907, as the type species of this genus ;

- (2) place the undermentioned generic names on the *Official List of Generic Names in Zoology*:—

*Procerites* Siemiradzki, 1898 (gender of generic name : masculine) (type species, designated under the Plenary Powers : *Procerites schloenbachi* de Grossouvre, 1907, VI<sup>e</sup> Congrès Assoc. Franc-Comtoise, Vesoul: 8) ;

*Siemiradzki* Hyatt, 1900 (in Eastman-Zittel, *Text-Book Palaeont.* 1 : 582) (gender of generic name : feminine) (type species by original designation : *Ammonites aurigerus* Oppel, 1857, *Württemb. naturw. Jahreshfte* 13 : 178) ;

- (3) place the name *Euprocerites* Wetzel, 1950 (an objective synonym of *Procerites* Siemiradzki, 1898, as proposed to be defined under (1) (b) above) on the *Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Generic Names in Zoology*:

- (4) place the under-mentioned trivial names on the *Official List of Specific Trivial Names in Zoology*:

*schloenbachi* de Grossouvre, 1907, as published in the binominal combination *Procerites schloenbachi*;

*aurigerus* Oppel, 1857, as published in the binominal combination *Ammonites aurigerus*.

## References

- BUCKMAN, S. S., 1909—30. "Yorkshire Type Ammonites".
- GROSSOUVRE, A. DE., 1892. "Observations sur l'*Ammonites procerus* auct.". *Bull. Soc. géol. France* (3) **20** : xli.
- , 1907. "Sur la variabilité de l'espèce chez les ammonites". *VI<sup>e</sup> Congrès de l'Assoc. Franc-Comtoise, Vesoul*, 1 Aug. 1906.
- , 1919. "Bajocien-Bathonien dans la Nièvre". *Bull. Soc. géol. France* (4) **18** : 337.
- SCHLOENBACH, U., 1865. "Beiträge zur Paläontologie der Jura- und Kreide-Formation . . ." *Palaeontographica* **13** : 1.
- SEEBACH, K. VON, 1864. "Der Hannoversche Jura", Hannover.
- SIEMIRADZKI, J. VON, 1898. "Monographische Beschreibung der Ammonitengattung *Perisphinctes*", Part 1, *Palaeontographica* **54** : 69.
- WETZEL, W., 1950. "Fauna und Stratigraphie der Wuerttembergica-Schichten insbesondere Norddeutschlands". *Palaeontographica* **99A** : 63.

## II.—THE SUBSEQUENT HISTORY OF THE CASE

**2. Registration of the present application:** On the receipt of Dr. Arkell's application in February 1949, the problem involved in regard to the generic name *Procerites* Siemiradzki, 1898, was allotted the Registered Number Z.N.(S.)403.

**3. Publication of the present application:** The present application was sent to the printer in December 1950 and publication took place in Triple-Part 6/8 of volume 2 of the *Bulletin of Zoological Nomenclature* on 4th May 1951 (Arkell, 1951, *Bull. zool. Nomencl.* **2** : 167—169).

**4. Issue of Public Notices:** Under the revised arrangements approved by the Thirteenth International Congress of Zoology,

Paris, 1948 (1950, *Bull. zool. Nomencl.* **4** : 51—56), Public Notice of the possible use by the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature of its Plenary Powers in the present case was given on 4th May 1951, both in Triple-Part 6/8 of volume 2 of the *Bulletin of Zoological Nomenclature*, the Part in which Dr Arkell's application was published, and also to the other prescribed serial publications. In addition, Notice was given to certain palaeontological serial publications in Europe and America. The publication of these Notices elicited no objection to the action proposed.

5. *Support received from the Joint Committee on Zoological Nomenclature for Paleontology in America*: On 9th April 1952 there was received a large number of letters commenting upon various applications previously published in the *Bulletin of Zoological Nomenclature*, including a letter of support for the present application, from Professor G. Winston Sinclair (then of the *University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Michigan, U.S.A.*), Chairman of the Joint Committee on Zoological Nomenclature for Paleontology in America. The letter in question was dated 6th February 1952, and its late receipt was apparently due to a decision to defer the despatch to the Commission of the letters containing comments by the members of the Joint Committee until all the letters in question had been prepared. By the date on which this letter was received, the Prescribed Period of Public Notice had expired and the Voting Paper (V.P.(52)18) relating to the present case had been prepared. It was therefore impossible to include in that Voting Paper a reference to Professor Sinclair's letter, but, when a few days later the Voting Paper was despatched (15th April), a supplementary sheet containing the particulars included in Professor Sinclair's letter was issued to the Members of the Commission, who were thus placed in possession of the views of the Joint Committee at the same time that they received the Voting Paper relating to the present case. The following is the text of Professor Sinclair's letter :—

The Joint Committee on Zoological Nomenclature for Paleontology in America has considered this subject, and I wish to inform you that, being polled, they voted : To support the petition (six) :—(1) J. Marvin Weller ; (2) Bobb Schaeffer ; (3) Bryan Patterson ; (4) Katherine V. W. Palmer ; (5) John B. Reeside, Jr. ; (6) R. C. Moore. To oppose the petition (three) :—(1) A. Myra Keen ; (2) Siemon W. Muller ; (3) John W. Wells.



### III.—THE DECISION OF THE INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION ON ZOOLOGICAL NOMENCLATURE

6. *Issue of Voting Paper V.P.(52)18*: On 15th April 1952, a Voting Paper (V.P.(52)18) was issued in which the Members of the Commission were invited to vote either for, or against, the proposal "relating to the name *Procerites* Siemiradzki, 1898, as specified in Points (1) to (4) at the foot of page 168 and continued on page 169 of volume 2 of the *Bulletin of Zoological Nomenclature*" [i.e. the Points set out in the concluding paragraph of the application reproduced in the first paragraph of the present *Opinion*].

7. *The Prescribed Voting Period*: As the foregoing Voting Paper was issued under the Three-Month Rule, the prescribed Voting Period closed on 15th July 1952.

8. *Particulars of the Voting on Voting Paper V.P.(52)18*: The state of the voting on Voting Paper V.P.(52)18 at the close of the prescribed Voting Period was as follows:—

(a) *Affirmative Votes had been given by the following seventeen (17) Commissioners (arranged in the order in which Votes were received)*:

Hering ; Calman ; Riley ; Dymond ; Esaki ; Pearson ;  
do Amaral ; Hankó ; Bonnet ; Mertens ; Lemche ;  
Vokes ; Cabrera ; Bradley ; Boschma ; Stoll ;  
Hemming ;

(b) *Negative Votes*:

None ;

(c) *Voting Paper V.P.(52)18 was not returned by one (1) Commissioner*:

Jaczewski.

9. *Declaration of Result of Vote*: On 16th July 1952, Mr. Hemming, Secretary to the International Commission, acting

as Returning Officer for the Vote taken on Voting Paper V.P.(52)18, signed a Certificate that the Votes cast were as set out in paragraph 8 above and declaring that the proposal submitted in the foregoing Voting Paper had been duly adopted and that the decision so taken was the decision of the International Commission in the matter aforesaid.

10. On 11th March 1954, Mr. Hemming prepared the Ruling given in the present *Opinion* and at the same time signed a Certificate that the terms of that Ruling were in complete accord with those of the proposal approved by the International Commission in its Vote on Voting Paper V.P.(52)18.

11. The following are the original references for the names which appear in the Ruling given in the present *Opinion*:—

*aurigerus*, *Ammonites*, Oppel, 1857, *Württemberg. naturw. Jahreshefte* 13 : 178 (p. 476 of the reprint under the title *Die Juraformation Englands, Frankreichs und der Südwestlichen Deutschlands*)

*Euprocerites* Wetzel, 1950, *Palaeontographica* 99A : 63

*Procerites* Siemiradzki, 1898, *Palaeontographica* 54 : 78, 303

*schloenbachi*, *Procerites*, de Grossouvre, 1907, *VI<sup>e</sup> Congrès Assoc. Franc-Comtoise*, Vesoul : 8

*Siemiradzki* Hyatt, 1900, in Eastman—Zittel, *Text-Book Palaeont.* 1 : 582

12. At the time of the adoption of the Ruling given in the present *Opinion*, the expression prescribed for the second portion of the binomen which constitutes the scientific name of a species was the expression "trivial name" and the *Official List* reserved for recording such names was styled the *Official List of Specific Trivial Names in Zoology*, the word "trivial" appearing also in the title of the *Official Index* reserved for recording rejected and invalid names of this category. Under a decision taken by the Fourteenth International Congress of Zoology, Copenhagen, 1953, the expression "specific name" was substituted for the expression "trivial name" and corresponding changes were made in the titles of the *Official List* and *Official Index* of such names

(1953, *Copenhagen Decisions zool. Nomencl.* : 21). The changes in terminology so adopted have been incorporated in the Ruling given in the present *Opinion*.

13. The prescribed procedures were duly complied with by the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature in dealing with the present case, and the present *Opinion* is accordingly hereby rendered in the name of the said International Commission by the under-signed Francis Hemming, Secretary to the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature in virtue of all and every the powers conferred upon him in that behalf.

14. The present *Opinion* shall be known as *Opinion* Three Hundred and One (301) of the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature

DONE in London, this Eleventh day of March, Nineteen Hundred and Fifty-Four.

*Secretary to the International Commission  
on Zoological Nomenclature*

**FRANCIS HEMMING**

